



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

13
Response
6/27/01

In re Application of:

Galdes, et al.

Serial No: 09/325,602

Filed: June 3, 1999

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS
TREATING DISORDERS
INVOLVING EXCITOTOXICITY

Attorney Docket No. CIBT-P02-069

Art Unit: 1653

Examiner: F. Moezie

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

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June 12, 2001

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Karen DiRocco

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Sir:

This amendment is being filed in reply to the outstanding Office Action, mailed February 13, 2001, in connection with the above application.

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined are presented below.

1. (Reiterated) A method for promoting survival and/or functional performance of neuronal cells susceptible to excitotoxicity comprising contacting the cells with an amount of a lipophilic modified *hedgehog* polypeptide effective to reduce excitotoxin-mediated degradation of the cells.
2. (Reiterated) A method for promoting survival of substantia nigra neuronal cells comprising contacting the cells with a trophic amount of a lipophilic modified *hedgehog* polypeptide.